

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 EB-07

COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CU-04 /081 W

-----101642Z 124974 /46

R 101320Z JAN 77

FM AMCONSUL NICE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1247

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

UNCLAS NICE 12

E.O. 11652 : N/A

TAGS : PGOV, PINS, PINT, GW, FR

SUBJECT : PRESS INTERVIEW : WILLY BRANDT

1. DURING A RECENT VACATION ON THE COTE D AZUR, FORMER WEST-GERMAN CHANCELLOR, WILLY BRANDT SPOKE BRIEFLY WITH THE LOCAL PRESS. ON JANUARY 7, AT LA CROIX-VALMER, THE PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST MOVEMENT, RECEIVED A REPORTER OF NICE-MATIN AND COMMENTED ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS .

2. FRANCOIS MITTERRAND, FRENCH SOCIALIST PARTY

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DURING THIS VISIT TO FRANCE, MR BRANDT HAS HAD NO CONTACT WITH FRANCOIS MITTERRAND. HE COMMENTED, HOWEVER, THAT MITTERRAND, WHOM HE LAST SAW AT THE SPANISH SOCIALIST PARTY CONGRESS IN MADRID, HAS DONE MUCH TO BUILD THE STRENGTH OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY IN FRANCE. BRANDT DOES NOT FEEL THAT THE FRENCH ECONOMIC SITUATION IS AS BAD AS THE FRENCH PUBLIC THINKS. THE FRENCH ECONOMY, HE SAID, CANNOT IN ANY WAY BE COMPARED WITH THE PRESENT SITUATION IN ENGLAND AND ITALY.

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3. WHEN ASKED TO COMMENT ON THE PLAN BARRE , BRANDT REFUSED TO SPECULATE ON FRENCH INTERNAL POLICY. IN REFUSING COMMENT, HOWEVER, HE POSED A QUESTION OF HIS OWN : QUOTE WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MR ROCARD ? UNQUOTE. IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT THE FORMER SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE P.S.U. (WHOM SOME FEEL COULD BECOME THE SUCCESSOR OF FRANCOIS MITTERRAND) IS OF INTEREST TO BRANDT.

4. PEACE IN EUROPE

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ACCORDING TO BRANDT, WAR IN EUROPE COULD NEVER AGAIN BE POSSIBLE  
AMONG COMMON MARKET COUNTRIES SINCE THEY NOW HAVE FAR TOO MANY  
JOINT INTERESTS. WITH REGARD TO THE EFFECT OF WORLD WAR  
II ON GERMAN YOUTH TODAY, BRANDT FEELS SURE THAT THE NAZI PERIOD  
HAS BEEN COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN BY THE PRESENT GENERATION. GERMAN  
YOUTH ARE TODAY ACCUSTOMED TO LIBERTY AND DEMOCRACY : THEY WILL  
NEVER RETURN TO NAZISM. EVERYWHERE IN THE WORLD NEW RIGHTIST  
PARTIES ARE SPRINGING UP BUT THIS SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN AS AN  
INDICATION THAT THEY ARE FOLLOWED BY THE ENTIRE POPULATION.  
SUCH PARTIES USUALLY REPRESENT A GROUPING OF A MINUSCULE  
PORTION OF A COUNTRY WHICH IS WITHOUT IMPORTANCE.

5. WHEN QUESTIONED REGARDING HIS FUTURE PLANS AND THE  
POSSIBILITY OF HIS ONE-DAY BECOMING CHANCELLOR AGAIN,  
ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT HELMUT SCHMIDT IS  
EXPERIENCING SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES WITHIN HIS OWN PARTY  
AND ALSO IN THE BUNDESTAG, BRANDT REPLIED QUOTE HELMUT  
SCHMIDT S FUNCTIONS ARE SOLELY NATIONAL WHEREAS MINE ARE NOW  
INTERNATIONAL. BUT WE WORK FOR THE SAME CAUSE. UNQUOTE.  
MURPHY

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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